





Forbes SNP bid derailed by gay views

SNP leadership contender Kate Forbes has denied her campaign has been derailed by comments

on gay marriage.

Key backers have announced they can no longer support the finance secretary, who said she would have voted against same-sex

unions.
She is one of three confirmed candidates, alongside Humza

Yousaf and Ash Regan.
Ms Forbes said she
would not seek to
overturn gay marriage
laws if she succeeded
Nicola Sturgeon.
But Scottish
ministers Richard
Lochhead, Tom Arthur
and Clare Haughey
have withdrawn their
support for her, as has
health committee lead
Gillian Martin.
Forbes said she
would have voted
against gay marriage
in Scotland because she
believes marriage

believes marriage should be between a man and a woman

Prepay meter compo call

ENERGY firms should start compensating customers whose homes were wrongfully fitted with a prepayment meter, without waiting for the results of a major review, the regulator has said. Ofgem chief executive

Jonathan Brearley said companies must review meters immediately. A six-week pause in

forced prepayment fittings lasts until the end of March.

It came after debt agents for British Gas broke into vulnerable people's homes to force-fit meters.



HE M(

Ministers have extra £5.4BILLION to waste after tax windfall



MINISTERS have even more of YOUR money to waste than they expected, after figures showed a surprise surplus in government finances in

January.
The highest selfassessed income tax receipts since records began in 1999 boosted the

Degan in 1999 boosted to UK's coffers. It meant it spent less than it received in tax, leaving a £5.4bn surplus. Economists said the

figures showed a "mixed picture" with public finances still weaker than

this time last year ahead of next month's Budget. Chancellor Jeremy Hunt will set out his plans for tax and spending on March 15. Martin Beck, chief

economic advisor to the EY ITEM Club which is a UK economic forecasting group, said the figures gave Mr Hunt "some positives to work on" in his

Budget. Mr Beck said the fall in cost of wholesale energy meant the energy meant the government's spending on support for bills "will be a fraction" of what was officially forecast last year.

However, because the government's self-imposed fiscal rules around debt relate to five years in the future, he said short-term movements in UK's finances "don't have much bearing" on policies. Public borrowing in the

financial year is £30.6bn less than predicted by the Office for Budget Responsibility (DBR). Michal Stelmach, senior economist at KPMG UK, said this could "tempt the chancellor to offer a pay increase to public sector workers as part of his Budget next month" in a Budget next month" in a bid to prevent further strikes.

But Mr Hunt said debt

was still at the highest level since the 1960s.



Call for Tory calm over Ulster deal

TORY Brexiteers and TORY Brexiteers and ministers have been urged to give Rishi Sunak the "time and space" to "threash out" a new deal on the Northern Ireland Protocol amid fears of a rebellion.

The Prime Minister faces a challenge in his own party as Britain and the EU inch closer to an agreement seeking to resolve tensions over post-

seeking to resolve tensions over post-Brexit arrangements. As negotiations continue, Mr Sunak will meet with his Cabinet as he seeks to satisfy the demands of Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP). He is facing calls to

Democratic Unionist Party (DUP).

He is facing calls to allow MPs a vote on any final deal and some ministers could resign if his solution risks Northern Ireland's position in the UK.

Health minister Maria Caulfield said: "We need to support the Prime Minister. "There isn't a deal done yet so all these rumours about ministers not being happy, I haven't seen

happy, I haven't seen the details, we need to give him the time and space to thrash out the elements of any deal."

HSBC profits double to £4bn

BANKING giant HSBC says its quarterly profit has almost doubled, boosted by rising interest rates around the world.

The London-based firm reported profit before tax of \$5.2bn (£4.3bn) for the last three months of 2022, up more than 90%

2022, up more than 90% from a year earlier.
However, pre-tax profit for the year as a whole fell by \$1.4bn to \$17.5bn, as it absorbs the cost of selling its French bank.
HSBC is also in the

process of selling its business in Canada. The bank said it

planned to use the money raised from that sale to make payouts to shareholders once the deal is completed.
"2022 was another

good year for HSBC,' chief executive Noel Ouinn said.

DOOM and gloomsters were forced to eat humble pie last night after figures showed the UK economy is on the UP!

British firms reported an unexpected bounce in activity this month as well as receding price pressures, according to a survey that suggested the economy may be identified to be according to a survey that suggested the economy may

suggested the economy may be sidestepping a recession.

Naysayers had been dancing with glee as forecasts seemed to show that Britain was heading for a slump – which Remainer headbangers were all too happy to blame on Brexit.

Now the pro-Brussels mob are spluttering with rage at the new figures.

the new figures.

The preliminary "flash"

Remainers fume as <u>UK dodges recession</u>

By COLIN HURST ews@sundaysport.co.uk

reading of the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) jumped to 53.0 in February from 48.5 in January, above the 50 threshold for growth for the first time since July.

It surpassed all forecasts in a Reuters poll of more than 20 doom-laden "economists", which had pointed to 49.0.

The dominant services

sector drove the improved sector drove the improved reading, which financial data company S&P Global put down to recovering global demand and stability since the turmoil associated with Liz Truss.

Crucially for the Bank of England as it weighs another interest rate hike, the PMI's price indexes—a good wide of

price indexes – a good guide of future inflation – continued to fall, with costs rising at the slowest pace since April 2021. The survey suggested that Britain's economy may be in

better shape than forecasters predicted, although similar unexpected strong readings in

unexpected strong readings in the past have sometimes turned out to be blips. "Better than anticipated PMI data for February indicate encouraging resilience of the economy," said S&P Chief Economist Chris Williamson.

Boosted

"While many companies report tough conditions, the broader business mood has been buoyed by signs of inflation peaking, supply chains improving and recession risks easing."

risks easing."
Williamson added that the survey data boosted the likelihood of a BoE rate hike next month, something which most economists expect.

TODAY'S WEATHER MOST areas should see a dry day with rain clearing from the south by midafternoon.

It will feel a lit-tle chillier than recent days with a breeze on higher ground. Temperatures

of 9C in London, 8C in Cardiff, 7C in Manchester, 7C in Belfast and 7C in Edinburgh.

The end of the week looks settled with plenty



of dry weather. Only the north of Scotland should see significant rain and gales on the coast.

Temperatures of 8C in London, 8C in Cardiff, 7C in Manchester, 9C in Belast and 8C in Edinburgh.
OUTLOOK: Settled.





MAD Vlad Putin has pointed to the Church of England's recent decision to explore gender-neutral terms for God as evidence that the West is heading for a 'spiritual catastrophe'. Delivering a state-of-the-nation address to the Russian people yesterday, President Putin said the West was waging a culture war on Russian Orthodox Christian values.

"The Anglican Church plans to consider the idea

of a gender-neutral God... Millions of people in the West understand they are being led to a spiritual catastrophe," Putin raged.

He went on to accuse Western nations of changing historical facts to suit 'woke' ideologies and criticised the Church

allowing priests to 'bless' same-sex marriages. "They distort historical facts, constantly attack our culture, the Russian Orthodox Church, and

other traditional religions

of our country.
"Look at what they do

with their peoples: the destruction of the family

destruction of the family and the abuse of children are declared the norm."

The Church of England, led by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, said it was considering alternatives to referring to God as 'he' after priests asked to be allowed to use gender-neutral terms instead.



Roman 'darning

<u>dildo, say</u> **boffins**

A POSTING on Hadrian's Wall may not have been the best job in the Roman Empire but it wasn't all grim on the edge of civilisation..

Archaeologists have found a life-sized wooden DILDO left behind by

The object was originally discovered at the Roman fort of Vindolanda near Hexham, Northumberland in 1992 but prudish museum bosses catalogued it as a "darning tool". But now boffins have

had another look and realised what it really

"I have to confess, part of me thinks it's kind of self-evident that it is a penis," said Newcastle University lecturer

Life-size

"I don't know who entered it into the catalogue. Maybe they were uncomfortable with it or didn't think the Romans would do

the Romans would do such silly things."

The phallus is six-inches long but, was probably larger because archaeological wood is prone to shrinkage and

By GRACE HOOPER

February 22, 2023 Sport 3

news@sundaysport.co.uk

example of a phallus made of wood recovered in the Roman world.

The phallus was found in a ditch along with dozens of shoes and dress accessories as well as craft waste products such as leather off-cuts or perhaps one reason for it being seen as a darning tool.

"What makes this a

darning tool.

"What makes this a first is it is not a small, miniature phallus," said Prof Collins. "It's life-size. It's also important because wood doesn't normally survive."

"Offen in archaeology."

normally survive."
"Often in archaeology
when we find an object
we can tell what it was
used for or deduce what
it was used for. That
wasn't the case for this
object. We have had to
cast our nets wide in
thinking what would a
six-and-a-half-inch
wooden carving of a wooden carving of a phallus be used for. "We had some very interesting discussions."

TWO goats walk into a DIY store. It sounds like the beginning of a joke but that's what really happened at a branch of Yank handyman shop Target in Harris County, Texas.

The goats strolled through an automatic door and began strolling down the asiles watched by

down the aisles, watched by bewildered DIY fans.

bewildered DIY fans.
Cops arrived on the scene after
the goats had been on the premises
for nearly 15 minutes.
The goats were cooperative and
did not put up a fight when corralled.
"These goats were well groomed,"
Constable Mark Herman said. "It

was very clear to us they were someone's pets."





Actor fears for missing sister-in-law

MACKENZIE Crook said his family are "clutching at straws" a week after the disappearance of his sister-in-law but they remain "determined and driven" to find her. Laurel Aldridge, 62, who is the older sister of Mr Crook's wife, was reported missing from her home in Walberton, West Sussex, on February 14.

British actor Crook, who is known for roles in The Office and Worzel Gummidge, said her disappearance has been "agonising" for the family.

He said they believe her disappearance could be linked to her ongoing chemotherapy. He said: "It was this time last Tuesday that she left the house with nothing but the clothes she was wearing, no keys, money, phone.

"She was diagnosed with cancer last year and she missed her chemo session and we think that's triggered some sort of crisis."



Four-day week 'a big success'

A FOUR-DAY working week has been declared a huge success after a trial across the UK.

A total of 61 companies A total of 64. companies reduced working hours for all staff by 20% for six months from June last year – with no reduction in wages.

When it came to the 3,000 staff, sick days fell by 39% with lower stress. The majority of firms said that they planned to

said that they planned to keep a shorter working week after the trial.





But supermodel teats are just lovely, aren't they?
London Fashion Week wrapped up in, er, London yesterday and after some dispute about his credentials, our snappa was there

credentials, our snappa alongside the catwalks and fashionistas at all the top shows.

But he wasn't there to picture the frocks and that – he was there to keep an eye out for designs that revealed a nice bit of pert clothes horse teat.

horse teat.

And he disappointed And he wasn't disappointed because this season, it seems that the ladies are news@sundaysport.co.uk

wearing, well, not a lot. And we salute them!

One lithe lass strode down the



This week I shall be mainly showing my tits





South Park skit 'upsets' royal moaners

INSIDERS claim
Meghan Markle has
been left 'upset and
overwhelmed' for the
past few days at how
she and Prince Harry
are depicted in an
episode of South Park.
The show pokes fun
at the couple's
grievances, while
Meghan is introduced
cuttingly as a 'sorority
girl, actress, influencer,
victim,' by another
character.
The series ridiculed
the couple's demands

The series ridiculed the couple's demands for privacy while on a publicity blitz for the prince's autobiography *Waaaah* – a dig at

Waaaah – a dig at Harry's recent memoir Spare – in last week's brutal episode.
According to a source, Meghan spent the last few days 'upset and overwhelmed' over how she was portrayed. The source said the Duchess of Sussex "is annoyed by South Park but refuses to watch it all". all". Meanwhile, a royal

commentator said Harry and Meghan's lawyers are 'casting an eye' over South Park and are watching for more attacks.



Patients 'hit hard' by NHS doctor strike

STRIKES by junior doctors will have a "significant impact" on NHS waiting times, a hospital leader

has said. Nick Hulme, chief executive of East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Trust, warned that the majority of pre-planned care would be cancelled on strike days, which are yet to be announced.

Meanwhile, health minister Maria Caulfield said junior doctors' pay demands are "unrealistic" and claimed that their strike action will "put patients at risk".

The BMA says its junior doctor members had voted overwhelmingly in

favour of a strike.

The action, which will include all doctors under consultant level, will last 72 hours and the BMA said that it could coincide with action taken by other health unions.



She sent X-rated pics to boy, cops say



A SEXY school dinner lady is under arrest, accused of sexually assaulting a student in a car.

MILF canteen worker Andie Rosaford lured a 15-year-old lad from a teen party and performed a sex act on him.

Cops say that the darkhaired dinner lady had bombarded the boy with explicit photos showing her exposing her moist vagina and even inserting sex toys into her anus.

Investigators believe the torrent of filth had been streaming into the boy's mobile for months.

Police began a probe on January 17 after they

By BRAD CHADWICK

news@sundaysport.co.uk

were contacted by administrators at New Fairfield High School in Connecticut, who received information about an employee possibly having inappropriate contact with a student.

with a student.
A pupil who attended a party with friends on January 13 told a parent that one of his pals left the gathering for a short time and then returned and was "behaving oddly".

It later emerged that the boy had left the party to meet up with an adult

woman and that they "believed the encounter was sexual in nature".

Cops spoke with the alleged victim who said they had communicated through private messages on social media for several months. months

Explicit

Rosafort is no longer employed by the school district.

district.
The student told police
Rosafort sent unsolicited
sexually explicit images
and videos as well,
according to investigators.
The student told relies

The student told police on the night of January 13, Rosafort asked to meet

the alleged victim. The lad said Rosafort picked them up and they drove a short distance before having contact of a sexual nature

nature.

The alleged victim felt uncomfortable, got out of the vehicle, and returned to the gathering.

Detectives examined the phones of the student and Rosafort and discovered photos and videos that matched what the student had described, according to police.

according to police.
Rosafort is charged with second-degree sexual assault, enticing a minor by computer, and risk of injury to a minor.





Cannibal tried to kill his date for a 'thrill'

A WOULD-BE cannibal was arrested after kidnapping his date who he planned to gruesomely kill "for the thrill," before she escaped.

Hunter Chase Nance, 24, was hit with numerous charges, including attempted murder, over the deranged scheme that he hatched after meeting the woman at a petrol station.

Nance brought her back to his home in China Grove, North Carolina. He then locked the door and allegedly launched at her with a knife.

The bloodied woman found a way to escape and was helped by paramedics after neighbours saw her walking down the road.

Once Nance was taken into custody, he admitted to police that he chose her randomly and wanted to murder her "for the thrill," before mutilating her body and leaving it outside for cars to see.

Cops said he also expressed interest in killing other people and cannibalism.

Fact me!

THERE are more trees on earth than stars in the galaxy.

Cop caught man tugging in M&S toilet

A MAN who furiously masturbated in front of an

masturbated in front of an undercover cop in a Marks and Spencer toilet has been spared jail. Gerard McVeigh, 43, from Clondalkin, near Dublin, pleaded not guilty to public masturbation at M&S in the Irish capital on June 16, 2021. However, he was found

However, he was found guilty following a hearing before Judge Michele Finan.

Judge Finan had adjourned sentencing
McVeigh, who claimed he
was urinating at the time
of the incident, pending a

of the incident, pending a probation report.
The case resumed when Judge Finan noted a "glowing" report on McVeigh was furnished. She imposed a threemonth sentence which she suspended on the condition he did not reoffend over the next 12 offend over the next 12 months.



















ANGER LURED: was killed

A WOMAN admitted to killing her best friend after being "catfished" by a stranger who said he'd pay £7.5million if he was sent photos and videos of

was sent photos and videos of the depraved crime.

Denali Brehmer, 22, pleaded guilty to murder in the 2019 killing of Cynthia Hoffman, 19, the Alaska Department of Law said.

Brehmer was 18 when she and two other teens were "catfished" by a man online who pretended to be a millionaire and convinced them to sexually assault and kill Hoffman.

Catfishing is the process of luring someone into a relationship using a fictional online persona.

Darin Schilmiller, then 21, posed online as a millionaire named "Tyler" to the teens.

Schilmiller offered £7.5m for the "rape and murder of someone in Alaska" – and told the teens to send him photos and videos of the horrific

teens to send him photos and videos of the horrific

By BRAD CHADWICK news@sundaysport.co.uk

crime taking place. Brehmer and her two alleged accomplices carried out the attack on June 2, 2019, luring Hoffman to Thunderbird Falls, under the guise of a friendly hike.

Hoffman had thought of Brehmer as her "best friend".

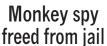
The teens bound Hoffman – before the critic having the back of the head.

The teens bound Hoffman – before shooting her in the back of the head with a 9mm handgun. The group sent Snapchat videos and pictures to Schilmiller before pushing Hoffman into the Eklutna River.

The teens had tried to burn Hoffman's body before sending her family a text that she had been dropped off elsewhere.

Brehmer faces anywhere from 30 to 99 years in prison.

anywhere from 30 to 99 years in prison.
Schilmiller was extradited to Alaska.
Now 24, Schilmiller has been held in jail on first-degree murder charges stemming from the case.



A MONKEY arrested as a SPY has been given to a street performer after jail bosses refused to house

The langur monkey climbed up a 200-foot mobile phone mast after it was seen crossing the border from India into Pakistan.

Locals, paranoid about spies from their giant neighbour, immediately called cops to the scene in Bahawalnagarm who took it down to the local prison.

Jail bosses turned the ape away, so corrupt cops sold it to a street performer.
It's believed the

unfortunate beast will now be forced to dance for tourists and undergo other unspeakable indignities in the backwards armpit of the



EVIL KILLER: Brehmer





Sexy Margot 'whipped' in nude scene

MARGOT Robbie got INJURED while filming a sex scene in The Wolf of Wall Street. But it wasn't because

Illiming a sex scene in the mining a sex scene in the twasn't because the stunning Aussie got too carried away.

She says she ended up with horrible cuts all over her body during the shoot where she was laying on the pretend money.

Margot played Naomi Lapaglia alongside movie legend Leonardo DiCaprio in the Hollywood blockbuster. She plays moneyhungry stockbroker Jordan Belfort's second wife and Martin Scorsese's film helped catapult her to fame. But the cast and crew were concerned about the star.

She said: "I got a million paper cuts on my back from all that money! It's not as glamorous as it sounds. "If anyone plans on having sex on top of a pile of cash: don't." She went on: "When I got up off the bed, everyone gasped. "They said: 'You look like you've been whipped a million times."

Fact me!

The most popular item sold at supermarkets is BANANAS.

More are sold than any other item.

Nut 'got angry' and chopped up handyman

A HOUSEHOLDER told police he cut off a handyman's head and arms, then disposed of some of the remains in his backyard, where they went undetected for three

went undetected for three months
Police said Lavaughn
Barnes, a 32-year-old with
no criminal record, put
the victim's head and
arms in a rubbish bag that
was picked up by binmen
in Washington DC.
Authorities said the killing
appears to have been appears to have been random.

The rest of the remains

were found in a bag in an overgrowth of brush and bamboo behind a an

bamboo behind a an apartment in Brookland, where Barnes lived.

Barnes said he felt angry for no reason, and came forward later about the killing – after first reporting it as if he had merely found remains – because he had "reported". because he had "repented to God for his actions."



Brooklyn Beckham's wife dragged into bizarre claims

was keen on Nicola





WED: Nicola and Brooklyn

PRESIDENT Biden's drug-fiend son begged his cousin to set him up with actress Nicola Peltz...to help him get over the split with his brother's widow, it's been claimed.

Hunter Biden was lamenting his lack of romantic success and began discussing potential girlfriends in a text exchange with Caroline Biden while undergoing treatment Massachusetts, in January 2019. And Nicola, now married to not-sure-

And Nicola, now married to not-sure-what-he-does-apart-from-having-famous-parents Brooklyn Beckham, was one of the names in the frame. In 2019, before Nicola married Becks Jnr, Hunter told his cousin how his psychiatrist had suggested he date Peltz to break free from Hallie Biden, widow of Hunter's late brother Beau. The cousins discussed model Bella Hadid, 26, actress Bella Thorne, 25, model Yasmina Jones, 31, and author

By BRAD CHADWICK news@sundaysport.co.uk

Roald Dahl's daughter Lucy Dahl, 57, as other potential matches.

Hunter repeatedly pressed Caroline to set him up with Nicola, who already had ties to his cousin.

He also asked her to find other 'rich, hot, and kind' women – just four months before he tied the knot with his current wife Melissa Cohen.

Pretty

Hunter told his cousin he and his shrink had been chatting when the doctor said he knew a woman who was

doctor said he knew a woman who was 'perfect' for him.
"Her name is a Peltz....and showed me her picture. Funny huh," Hunter wrote to Caroline.
Caroline replied: "Nicola Peltz!?!? See I told you. How f**king pretty is she. And sweet."
A source close to the Peltz family said that Nicola has never met or even spoken with the president's son.

spoken with the president's son.

Bigger cocks worry boffins

COCKS are getting bigger but medics are worried...

The average penis length has increased over the past 30 years, a new study has found, but experts say the discovery is "concerning". "Any overall change in

development is worrying because our reproductive because our reproductive system is one of the most important pieces of human biology," Dr Michael Eisenberg, the study's author, told Stanford

Medicine's blog Scope.

"If we're seeing this
fast change, it means something powerful is happening to our bodies." The Stanford University

study, published in *The* World Journal of Men's Health, found from 1992 to 2021 erect cock length increased 24%.

DON'T ask Belle Thorne to write on her boobs!

The 25-year-old actress once took part in a risque phot shoot for GQ Magazine where she posed topless but when she was stopped on the street and asked her to sign a copy for a man hoping to sell it, she declined because she felt it was "inappropriate."

She said: "I signed things, yeah. I don't really care but I did tell someone off yesterday.

"It was this guy and he was shoving photos in front of me and there was a photo of me from GQ.

"It's super sexy and my buttis out and I'm wearing lingerie and I'm topless.

"I said, 'I'm not signing that.'

He pulled out another photo of a magazine with another sexy image. He was like, 'Come on, Bella. Sign it for me.' I didn't like it. It was inappropriate!

"There was some stuff there from a campaign that I did when I was 16 and it was clear he wanted me to sign things that were viewed as sexy and even underage.

"It was just that I was under

even underage.

"It was just that I was under 18 and it's inappropriate."







'Pornstarfish' looks like five

A NEW species of starfish is turning heads with its risque

heads with its risque appearance.

A photo of the bizarre echinoderms which closely resembles the male genitalia was uploaded to Reddit where it has been viewed – and considered – by more than 44,300 people.

The starfish, native to the shores of northern Australia, is seen resting on the ocean floor and turned upwards, with social media users calling it 'Cocktopus' and 'Pornstar'.

'Pornstar'. The echinoderm has

The echinoderm has five arms and each end has eyebrow-raising, bulbous tips – like BELLENDS.

The starfish is known as the Choriaster Granulatus and can grow to about 11 inches.

Its chubby look has inspired its second name as 'the doughboy starfish'. Choriaster

granulatus typically has a pink colour and brown papillae.

PUDDLE BATH

CARLINE Sthilaire, CARLINE Sthilaire, 43, was nicked for public indecency after she stripped naked and started having a bath in a PUDDLE outside Collier Public Library in Immokalee, Florida.















Masseuse jailed for nude pics & assault

A "CREEPY" massage therapist has been sentenced to three years in jail for secretly taking photos of two clients and sexually assaulting another.
Shao-Wei Wu, 34 (above), pleaded guilty in the District Court in Rockhampton, Queensland, last year to sexual assault and recording in breach of privacy.
During his sentencing, the court heard the offending occurred two years ago when the Taiwanese national worked as a masseur in a shopping centre in Rockhampton. Rockhampton.

Paying

On April 5, 2021, three women visited the shop as paying customers at different times during the day. Wu partially removed the underwear of one, assaulting her before she "swatted his hand

she "swatted his hand away".

"She complained to her partner and then the police," Judge Jeffrey Clarke said.

Wu later admitted to the offending but told cops he "thought she would enjoy it".

The judge called the offences "particularly creepy and sneaky".

Drink drive girl sues cops over 'nude pics leak'

A DRINK drive suspect has launched legal action against the police who she says shared explicit

pictures of her.
The unnamed woman
has sued the city of Ottawa, Illinois, several Ottawa, Illinois, several police officers and Commissioner James Less for allegedly keeping nude photos and videos of her. The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago.

The named defendants are the city, Police Chief Brent Roalson, James

Less, current officers Kari Whalen and Scott Harden and former officer

Stephanie Nelson.
According to the complaint, the woman was arrested and held on April 24, 2022, by Whalen and Harden.

and Harden.

Her lawyers claim that cameras in the police station "captured video footage of the woman while she was partially and totally nude", adding "the named defendants and unspecified others texted, emailed, and otherwise published and disseminated these nude videos and photographs amongst each other and the general public".

PLUG OUEENS



How about TWO beauty queens who are MARRIED to each other, and who fiddle with each other's fannies in their marital bed?!

Stunning Miss Puerto Rico Fabiola Valentín, 22, and Miss Argentina Mariana Varela, 26, are baring their love in a new ad for pop star Rihanna's perfume brand, Fenty.

Romantic

The cosmetics company posted the clip, titled "Come Smell Me" on the brand's official Instagram account.

In the ad, the couple can be heard discussing their love for each other as well as the new "woodsy" Fenty eau de parfum, which was released last week.

And against a montage of remercia

footage featuring the two models, one of

them can be heard saying: "Everything kept flowing, and turning into this beautiful friendship. Which has grown

beautiful friendship. Which has grown now even more as wives, as a couple. and that is magical, to find someone like that in your life."
While promoting the scent Valentin wrote on Instagram: "It's beautiful when two bodies come together with love."
The duo met in 2020 during the Miss Grand International pageant in Thailand where they became "inseparable", despite competing with each other for the crown.

Both women were in the Top

Both women were in the Top

10 of the competition but won something $more\ important-each\ other's\ heart.$

WIFE AND WIFE: Fabiola and Mariana

Afterwards, they continued to hang out and post about their "friendship".

A fan said: "Never mind the perfume, I'd love a sniff of these girls' bedsheets when they've been at it with the double-ender!

A DEATH-ROW inmate who cut his own EYES out has pleaded for mercy to avoid his



upcoming execution.
In 2004, Andre
Thomas was 21 when he
fatally stabbed his fatally stabbed his estranged wife Laura Christine Boren, 20, their four-year-old son Andre Lee and her 13-month-old daughter Leyha Marie Hughes. He cut out the hearts of the two children, later telling police God had instructed him to commit the killings and

commit the killings and

three were demons.

three were demons.

The outrage happened in his hometown of Sherman, Texas.

His execution is scheduled for April 5 but lawyers and civil rights groups claim he is too bonkers to fry.

Lawyers say Thomas has been plagued by mental illness all his life, started hearing

voices when he was nine and first attempted suicide when he was 10.

At his trial jurors rejected insanity with prosecutors saying he knew his conduct was

wrong. Thomas is now blind having gouged out his eyes, eating one of them to ensure that the government could not hear his thoughts.





''S ANNOYING HIM THIS WEEK?

ple w

JOKE: Blyton and Dahl have been



days-most-unfashionable of pastimes known as "reading".

Not just any old rubbish, though. There was no Sky TV to watch, or the internet, and no-one had ever heard of "streaming" unless they were pissing up the school urinal wall (by lads, with cocks, and not girls, who, without cocks, can't).

No, it was mainly Buster, the Beano, the Dandy, and for a short while the revived Eagle with its ever-brave hero Dan Dare battling the big-headed green alien bastard, The Mekon, who never died.

But by far the largest amount of my time was spent with my nose in the books of Roald Dahl and Enid Blyton.

Now, if I was writing this for The Guardian – which I would rather burn to death in public than ever actually do-thenthat wouldnow automatically make me go into hand-wringing apology mode.

make me go into hand-wringing apology mode.

Scamp

Or at least: It would if I was mad

enough.
According to the usual suspects, reading the Famous Five or the Secret Seven or The Magic Faraway Tree or Charlie and the Chocolate Factory now means I should automatically be found guilty of any accusation thrown

Anne from the Famous Five, for instance, is no longer the sweet, blonde-haired younger sister of de facto group leader Julian and his seamp of a little brother, Dick.

scamp of a little brother, Lick.
Oh no.
Now she is an oppressed female always being put upon by the evil overbearing fascist patriarchy that is, erm, her own family.
Because while Julian, along with his ever sharp, expert rower and suspected lesbian cousin Georgina, were off solving fiendish mysteries and catching ruffians, poor Anne was left behind to make butties and prepare exciting outdoor beds from prepare exciting outdoor beds from

heather.
Thus, in the f**ked up world of the

increasingly insane left, Anne, who of course never existed in real life, is nonetheless now considered a "victim". We can only wonder about Aunt Fanny's future...

Dahl, who, like Blyton, is no longer with us, takes even more of a kicking. On Saturday, The Guardian deep dived into this essential subject.

It reported: "In previous editions of James and the Giant Peach, the Centipede sings: 'Aunt Sponge was terrifically fat / And tremendously flabby at that,' and, 'Aunt Spiker was thin as a wire/ And dry as a bone, only drier.'

drier.'
"Both verses have been removed, and in their place are the rhymes: 'Aunt Sponge was a nasty old brute / And deserved to be squashed by the fruit,' and, 'Aunt Spiker was much of the same / And deserves half of the blame.'

Neutral

"References to 'female' characters have disappeared. Miss Trunchbull in Matilda, once a 'most formidable female', is now a 'most formidable woman'.

"Gender-neutral terms have been added in places – where Charlie and the Chocolate Factory's Oompa Loompas were 'small men', they are now 'small people'.

"The Cloud-Men in James and the Giant Peach have become Cloud-People."

This absolutely f**king ludicrous, 100% stone-cold bullshit, that people with 'nose-rings and green hair

100% stone-cold bullshit, that people with nose-rings and green hair actually get paid to produce, makes me want to bite wood. Or steel.

Then, of course, comes the explanation, yet again in the depressing pages of The Worst Newspaper in The World.

"Puffin and the Roald Dahl Story Company made the changes in conjunction with Inclusive Minds, which its spokesperson describes as 'a collective for people who are passionate about inclusion and accessibility in children's literature'."

children's literature'."
We've all had quite enough of this bollocks.
Or should that be "male genitalia"?

EMAIL ME: justin@sundaysport.co.uk FOLLOW ME ON TWITTER:





Nude burglar hid in hot tub after cop call

A MAN was found naked in a hot tub after a woman called cops

a woman called cops saying a man had broken into her home. According the Randolph County Sheriff's Department, a woman called 911 Sheriff s Department, a woman called 911 saying a man named Justin Pennington had broken into her home in Elkins, West Virginia, and that he was locked in the garage, naked.

Pennington fled the scene minutes before deputies arrived.

Deputy Knotts and police dog Twix tracked the suspect to a field where they found a pair of shoes, socks and a cap belonging to Pennington.

Deputies continued to follow the trail until the trail went cold.

to follow the trail until the trail went cold.

A few minutes later, deputies say they heard yelling, and a 911 call came in about a naked man in a hot tub at a home.

Deputies and officers with the Elkins Police

Department then arrested Pennington.
He is being held in the Tygart Valley Regional Jail.



THE shortest commercial flight in the world lasts just 57 SECONDS!

Hunters take to skies in battle with mad cows

GUNMEN in a helicopter are taking down feral cows that are causing mayhem in a wilderness The hunt is meant to

protect areas of the vast Gila Wilderness in New

The Gila National Forest approved the plan as conservation groups complained that 150 cattle were damaging streams and rivers with

their hooves and mouths.
"The feral cattle have been aggressive towards visitors, graze year-round, and trample stream banks and springs, causing erosion," Forest Supervisor Camille Howes

To kick off the kill operation, officials will close a section to the public. A helicopter with shooters onboard will spend four days searching for and gunning down feral cattle.







I reckon she's the leader n the sack.

Checkered Flag, Newcastle, United Kingdom

I bet she's filthy behind closed doors.

LULA MAI, Kiddiminster, United Kingdom, 7 hou

William likes to be s panked in the bedroom

WightBoy, Newport, United Kingdom,

Bet she got it when home later

daisydoole19, Clonda

Chocolate?

Starfish

Robbiej28, Stournridge

By TARQUIN SMYTH news@sundaysport.co.uk

THERE have been calls for vile online trolls to race EXECUTION TREASON after they made off-colour remarks about the Prince **Princess of Wales' SEX LIFE!**

The Princess of Wales sent royal fans wild as she appeared to give her husband

wild as she appeared to give her husband Prince William a tap on the behind while walking the Bafta red carpet. As the couple arrived at Royal Festival Hall in London, Kate Middleton, 41, leant across and appeared to give his behind a tap. It was a rare public display of affection for the couple, who appeared relaxed and overjoyed to be attending the event, which has become an appual occasion for the two

overjoyed to be attending the event, which has become an annual occasion for the two. William has been the president of Bafta since 2010 and Kate first attended the event with her husband in 2017.

But the whole evening was RUINED by online trolls making their vile comments on the website of the Daily Mail — once a proudly-royalist newspaper.

One commoner wrote: "I bet he ran her ragged when they got home, lucky so and so." Another Mail reader, impertinently commenting about his betters' private life, gurgled: "I reckon she's the leader in the sack". Last night Guiles Predergast, professor of constitutional law at the University of West Lancs said: "Once upon a time such talk would have invited execution for treason. And I'm not sure that would be a bad thing."









Dear Sam,

I'M 22 and have just returned from a year's break in Japan where I was teaching English to students.

For the first six months I was based in Tokyo and got stuck into the nightlife, which is incredible.

For the first six months I was based in Tokyo and got stuck into the nightlife, which is incredible.

I hooked up with another ex-pat and he introduced me to the sex clubs, which were outrageous.

Our regular port of call was called Sex Kittens and inside it was wall-to-wall with cute Japanese girls dressed in college girl uniforms. For a £10 entrance fee you could feel their tits and arse. For another £10 the girls would give you a blowjob in the club and for £25 you were led to a cubicle for a private dance and a shag.

Every so often the club organised a private party and they were really wild. The entrance fee to these events was £50 but you really got your money's worth.

First off there were about 25 girls wrestling each other nude in a giant paddling pool of noodles with sauce.

Any bloke who was brave enough to get in there was rewarded with blowjobs and, if he could keep hold of them for long enough, a shag.

After that there was a game show-type stage event where the five girls stuck their arse through curtains and blokes took it in turns porking them up the arse.

Then it was a free-for-all with shagging going on in every corner of the club.

the club.

I had a great time, but since returning to England I've not managed

to find anything that compares.

I looked on the internet but all the websites I visited were rubbish.

Please help!

Sam says... GET yourself a job in Tokyo.

Dear Sam,

I WAS clearing out the boxroom at our house the other day when I came across some holiday snaps taken 50 years ago.

One showed my wife-to-be coming out of the sea in a tiny red bikini looking absolutely ravishing.

I showed them to the missus before we went to bed and her reaction was sensational. We had the greatest sex since that time on our hols.

How about that?

GS, Lancs

Sam says...

YOU must have been in 70th heaven.

I've got two women to satisfy my sexual needs

FELTOSOCCOCCOCCOC

Dear Sam,

I AM a 45-year-old man and have been with my girlfriend for 15 years. I recently started going to the gym to get in shape and got myself a female personal trainer.

I have a good sex life with my girlfriend and she really satisfies me in the bedroom.

I get on well with my trainer and after my workout last week she suggested we have a quick sauna.

Well, she ended up giving me a blowjob. Since then I can't get her out of my head.

When I have a workout with her, we are now really touchy-feely.

I am still having sex with my girlfriend and still enjoy that as well.

that as well.
What the hell should I do?

Sam says...

THANK your lucky stars and carry on enjoying yourself.

WELCOME to the World famous Sport Agony page! No other newspaper's agony aunts can offer the level of advice – or experience – than our own Agony Angels! This week SAM TYE has been reading through your letters. And here's her advice for you...



<u>Shy office babe had no</u> inhibitions in b<u>edroo</u>

Dear Sam.

A NEW girl has just started at the office where I work.

She's quite shy but has lovely curly

red hair and great tits.

I thought I'd try to bring her out of her shell a bit, so I invited her out for a drink after work.

We got on well and I was thrilled when she later agreed to come back to my place

place.
She soon lost her shyness and was

onto me, thrusting her hot tongue in my

I immediately went for her giant tits and her nipples were like cherry stones as I tweaked them and sucked them.

After a while she grabbed my head and pushed it down between her long legs as she pulled her skirt up to reveal the moist triangle in her panties.

Squealing

I eased them aside and took a deer breath of her musty scent and probed her ginger lips with my tongue. Within minutes she was squealing in

Within minutes she was squealing in the throes of passion, which ended in a crescendo of orgasm.

She was quite wobbly on her legs after that, so she sank to her knees and took my rock-hard cock between her lips. Her oral was out of this world!

She tore off my clothes and spread her thighs wide so I could slide easily deep into her sopping fanny.

After a faw minutes of humping

After a few minutes of humping, she flipped me over and eased herself down on my throbbing tool.

She expertly rode me, making me

explode in ecstasy.

The only drawback is that now

I think I've fallen in love with her. But she's told me that she can't see me any more because she's getting married

soon. What can I do about it?

AP, Kent

Sam says...

CALM down and get real. You've only seen her once, you great big baby.

Dear Sam.

I HAD to e-mail you to tell you about Sunday – my best day of the week. I'm married to a wonderful woman who has 38DD breasts. It really turns her on when I fondle and lick her erect nipples and this gets me going too. She also likes to give me a tit-rub

She also likes to give me a tit-rub until I climax.

We normally start our games at around 8.30am. First she straddles me and then bends over so that her

just above my face.
After a while she guides my rigid rod

into her and bounces up and down on it while I reach up and tweak her nipples

until they are as stiff as my manhood.

It's only a matter of seconds before she screams out in ecstasy as she reaches her first orgasm.

Eventually I climax too, then I take

one of her nipples in my mouth.

I kiss, lick and suck it for ages until she's begging me to enter her – which I

sne's begging me to enter ner – which I do with one almighty thrust. I ride her like a stallion, kissing each breast in turn as I pump away at her. But the other day she suddenly announced that she was thinking of having her breasts reduced.

What should I do?

P.I. email

Sam says...

ALL you can do is point out how important they are to you.

Jeweller hunk is a gem of a lover

Dear Sam,

I WENT to a jeweller's with my boyfriend a couple of months ago. He was buying me an engagement ring – but I ended up ditching him for the hunky guy behind

As soon as I walked in and saw him, my heart skipped a beat. I chose a ring and, as we left, the jeweller pressed a card in my hand.

I rang him later and we arranged to meet that night as my fella was working until midnight.

At the end of the evening he invited me back to his place. I eagerly accepted and when we got inside he grabbed me and gave me a passionate kiss.

I could feel myself getting moist as he he slid his hand up my top, resting on my breast.

I felt as if I was about to burst. I undid his trousers and grabbed his manhod, letting it swell in my hand.

Thrusts

He led me to the sofa and I leaned over and took the tip of his cock between my lips.

He was moaning with every lick and slurp and then said he was about to come. So I clambered on to his lap and guided him inside my aching pussy.

A few thrusts later we both came. I stayed for two hours and we made love in loads of positions.

That was the beginning of our affair. Three weeks later I told my boyfriend it was all over between us and my jeweller lover and I now live together.

But my family won't have anything to do with us and it's breaking my heart.

After all, I can't help falling in love. Any advice?

AK, North Yorks

Sam says...

YES - ignore them. I wish you both all the luck in the world.

Dear Sam.

THERE's a bird in my local pub who everyone fancies. She's a 21-year-old brunette with huge tits.

And she gives blowjobs to anyone who beats her at The other week, she

gave me some photos and said: "They're for your eyes only and wait until you get

home to look at them. I rushed home and couldn't believe my eves when I saw the snap

They were pics of her showing everything.

The next time I saw her she asked If I'd enjoyed the pics. When I said yes, she

invited herself to my place.
I suggested we make a porn vid she was all for it. She started flicking her

bean while I filmed her, then she sucked me off. She gave me a fantastic

tit-wank and I exploded all over her face.

She then produced some handcuffs from her bag, tied me to the bed and emptied the contents of my fridge on to me - they were all licked off my knob. This did nothing for me

as I thought it was a terri-ble waste of food, but she seemed to enjoy it.

We see each other twice a week, but it's costing me a fortune in food. Should I tell her to cut

out the food sex? VT, Somerset

Sam says...

YOU could but she might tell you to cut out the sex!

Road, Stretford,

agony@sundaysport.co.uk

Mail: Agony, Sunday

Manchester M32 0QJ

Sport, 860 Chester







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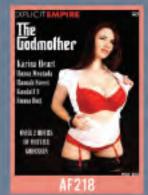


























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5. WHICH Hollywood star who appeared in Fantastic Voyage and One Million Years B.C.

- One Million Years B.C has died? a) Raquel Welch b) James Brolin c) Michael Douglas d) Jane Fonda

Manchester United striker hit the target again at the weekend to make it an

Emerge: 127, Halt, 19. Girth; 23, Pit; 25. Amuse; 27, Tarn; 28. Keep; 30, Pet; 31, Spy; 32, Ace.

a) Orlando Bloom b) Jude Law c) Kenneth Branagh

SPORTDUKO

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impressive 22 goals in all competitions this

b) Marcus Rashford c) Anthony Martial d) Denis Law

7. WHO was dressed up in the Rhino costume as he won the current series of The Masked Singer at the weekend?
a) Charlie Simpson b) Ricky Wilson c) Michael Ball d) Bruce Springsteen

8. WHICH British Hollywood A-list actor has just become a father for

the SEVENTH time?

season? a) Jadon Sancho 6 2 5

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d) Nigel Havers

9. BAFTA caused much

consternation when they left which British national treasure out of their

treasure out or their tribute to actors who have died in the past 12 months? a) Robbie Coltrane b) Olivia Newton-John c) Bernard Cribbins d) Leslie Phillips

10. WHICH 1990s pop band – famous for their earworm songs and dance routines – are reuniting for a new tour in arenas across the

UK this year?
a) S Club Seven
b) All Saints
c) Take That
d) Oasis

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
 5. Skin irritation (4)
 7. Champion's opponent (10)
 8. Cause the death of (4)
 10. Counterpart (4)
 12. Stubbs, actress (3)
 13. Yeast (6)
 16. Any verse or piece of poetry (5)
 18. Weir (3)
 20. Roster (4)
 21. House type (4)
 22. High mountain (3)
 24. Winter sportsman (5)
 25. Painter (6)
 27. Accept (4)

- 27. Accept (4) 29. Jolt (4) 33. Feel or undergo (10) 34. Compass point (4)

DOWN

- 1. Female person or animal (3) 2. Gusted (4)

- 2. dusteu (4)
 3. Intend (4)
 4. Ovum (3)
 5. Irritate, vex (3)
 6. Punctuation mark (5) S. Interce, (1)

 6. Punctuation mark (5)

 9. Rush (5)

 10. Deposit on the teeth (6)

 11. Stripling (3)

 13. Minimum (5)

 14. Urn (4)

 15. Come into view (6)

 17. Stop (4)

 19. Circumference (5)

 23. Mine (3)

 25. Entertain (5)

 27. Mountain lake (4)

 28. Retain (4)

 30. Favourite (3)

 31. Secret agent (3)

 32. Expert (3)

1. WHICH acclaimed sitcom is being revived for Red Nose Day? a) Love Thy Neighbour b) The Good Life c) Blackadder

the price of a Mayo Chicken from 99p to

- what? a) £1 b) £1.09 c) £1.19
- d) £1.99
- 3. WHERE did street artist Banksy's latest mural appear? a) Southend b) Margate c) Colwyn Bay d) Skegness
- stepped down as Scottish First Minister. What year did she take up the
- post?
 a) 2012
 b) 2014
 c) 2016
 d) 2018

- 6. WHICH red-hot

ANSWERS

CROSSWORD: ACROSS: 8. Itch; 7. Challenger; 8. Kill; 10. Twin; 12. Una; 12. Leaven; 16. Rhyme; 22. Alp; 24. Stier; 26. Gut; 27. Semi; 22. Alp; 24. Stier; 26. Gut; 27. Take; 29. Bump; 35. Experience; 34. West. 35. Mean; 4. Egg; 5. Itk;



'N' HORNY











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Times is up for Grand National legend Minella

RACHAEL Blackmore acknowledged her life-changing Grand National success on Minella Times success on Minella Times after the 2021 winner was retired through injury. Trained Henry de Bromhead was hoping to have another crack at the

great race. However, a shoulder

problem has emerged which has forced connections to call time

He will be forever remembered as the horse who enabled Blackmore to become the first woman to ride the winner of the most famous race in the world.

"I think that day did change my life. I didn't realise the scope of the Grand National or the reach that the race has until afterwards, it really does hit different parts of the world that other races perhaps don't," said Blackmore.

"Outside the racing bubble, it hits a lot of people and when you're walking in today and you're seeing replays of all the old races playing in the background, it's just an incredible race and it's a privilege to be a part of its history now.

"He's such a special horse and he gave me the best day in racing that I've had – and there's a lot of hot competition for that! "It was such an

incredible day and you just have so much gratitude for



TRAINER: De Bromhead



PROUD: Blackmore

the horse when they give one norse when they give you something like he did. It was an incredible day and to be able to do it in the colours of JP McManus and for Henry incredible. and for Henry Just made it even more special. "He's always been a yard favourite I think and

Henry and all the team have done such an incredible job with him to achieve that, so I'll always be so grateful to Henry and everyone down there for what they did in getting him to win the race.

Reflecting on the race itself she said: "He was just such a fabulous just such a fabulous jumper. He jumped so well from fence to fence. Obviously we got a lot of luck in the race and got a beautiful passage throughout, so luck was definitely on our side and you need that in a Grand National. "He's just such an

"He's just such an intelligent horse and it was such an enjoyable race to ride in, aside from going over the line which took it to a whole different stratosphere.

"Riding in the race was electric and jockeys always say that just getting around in the National gives you a bit of a kick and it's true, there's something different about it. I already had that buzz from him, so to actually win the race was incredible."

De Bromhead said: "He suffered a setback so we have taken the decision to

WE'VE GOT TODAY'S RACING TIPS COVERED



FIRST EMPEROR can complete his hat-trick in the Huge Daily Boosts Only At BetUK Handicap at Newcastle.

Bred to be a Classic winner as a son of Galileo out of the exceptional mare Sky Lantern, First Emperor failed to reach those kind of lofty heights during his time in Ireland with Donnacha O'Brien, striking out in eight starts before being sold at the backend of last season.

Raised

Bought for 25,000 guineas by John Ryan, First Emperor finished down the field on his first start for new connections

first start for new connections before coming good at Lingfield at the end of January.

A narrow verdict over dual winner Ehteyat looked decent form and First Emperor improved again on that when following up off a 5lb higher mark at Kempton just four days later.

The handicapper has raised him another 5lb for that win, but Ryan seems to have found the key for this

have found the key for this horse in staying trips and he is one who can keep

By MIKE FRANCIS

progressing. He can land a

win here. Lord Riddiford has been knocking on the door but his time can come in the BetUK's Acca Club £5 Free Bet

knocking on the door but his time can come in the BetUK's Acca Club £5 Free Bet Handicap.

John Quinn's runner has no secrets from the handicapper at this point, with his mark having bounced around the 90s for nearly a year now.

He remains competitive at this kind of perch, as shown by his recent third at Wolver.

Lightship edges up in class for the Try Our New Price Boosts At Unibet Fillies' Handicap at Kempton.

Now with Kevin Philippart de Foy after two unsuccessful runs for Sheila Lavery, Lightship wasted little time in getting off the mark for her new handler, winning at the second time of asking and on her handicap bow.

Given a starting mark of 7s rethis track at the start

her handicap bow.
Given a starting mark of
67 at this track at the start
of February, she travelled
strongly before grabbing the
lead a furlong out and
keeping on well to win by
three-quarters of a length.
Raised 5lb for the win,
Lightship could still have
plenty in the locker.
First Officer switches right

up in trip to two miles for the Unibet 3 Uniboosts A Day

Unibet 3 Uniboosts A Day Handicap.

He showed up well when third on his only previous attempt at the distance and following a shorter sharpener over 12 furlongs, First Officer should be primed for this assignment.

should be primed for this assignment.

The Kings Writ is the choice in Doncaster's Virgin Veterans' Handicap Chase.

The 12-year-old has shown

up well in two of his three starts for Kayley Woollacott this term, putting behind him an initial pulled-up run at Exeter to win at Warwick before a second at Hereford.

Class

He bumped into a progressive runner on that latter occasion and The Kings Writ can make hay off

Kings Writ can make nay on bottom-weight here.
Hurricane Bay holds all the aces in the Virgin Bet EBF Novices' Hurdle judged

EBF Novices' Hurdle judged on official ratings.

He raced prominently in the Grade Two River Don here on his most recent run, sticking to his task admirably over a three-mile trip that appeared a step too far.

Dropped in distance and downinclass, Lucy Wadham's runner is a clear pick.

Shared dips in company in

the Virgin Bet Daily Money

Back Novices' Hurdle.
A repeat of the form that saw him finish a reasonably close-up fifth in a Listed contest should be good enough.

enough.
Volcano can thrive back on better ground in the His Royal Highness The Prince Of Wales Amateur Jockeys' Handicap Chase at Ludlow.
He looks a decent bet against what looks a pretty modest field.

DONCASTER: 1.15 Hurricane Bay, 50 Sopran Thor, 2.25 1.50 Sopran Thor, 2.25 Midnightreflection, 3.00 The Kings Writ, 3.35 Shared, 4.10 Boleyn Bay, 4.45 Cuban Court.

KEMPTON: 5.00 Ma Famille, 5.30 Mister X, 6.00 Winter Moon, 6.30 Lightship, 7.00 D Day Odette, 7.30 First Officer, 8.00 Miss Tiki.

LUDLOW: 2.00 Effernock Fizz, 2.35 Welsh Charger, 3.10 Patient Dream, 3.45 Volcano, 4.20 Great Snow, 4.52 Pawpaw, 5.22 Quoi De Neuf.

NEWCASTLE: 1.35 Lituus, 2.10 Mr Inspiration, 2.45 Vision Of Hope, 3.20 Riddiford, 3.55 FIRST EMPEROR (NAP), 4.30 Onight, 5.05 How Bizzare. PUNCHESTOWN: 1.05 I Am Fortunata,

1.40 Bob Cigar, 2.15 Brandy Love, 2.50 Crumb Of Comfort, 3.25 American Money, 4.00 Chelseas Friend, 4.35 Bint Freya, 5.10 Dollar Nolimit.

SUBJECT of a Benny Hill skit and immortalised in the song Dickie Davies' Eyes by Half Man Half Biscuit, Dickie Davies transcended his role as anchorman of ITV's World of Sport to become one of the most popular faces on 1980s telly.

Davies' deadpan introductions of fringe sports from tenpin

bowling to stock car racing played a major part in helping the show

rise from its inauspicious beginnings to become a genuine challenger to the Saturday afternoon dominance of the BBC's rival Grandstand.
But it was his association with

BBC's rival Grandstand.

But it was his association with wrestling, and its motley collection of out-of-shape stars, including Big Daddy and Giant Haystacks, for which Davies and the show would become best known, despite the presenter admitting he was never its greatest supporter.

"I was never a great wrestling fan," Davies said in 2006. "I never thought of it as a sport, but we used to get six to 10 million people watching it every Saturday, so the success of it can't be denied."

Born as Richard Davies in Wallasey, Merseyside, in 1928, it was not until he took over as the main World of Sport presenter from Eamonn Andrews in 1968 that he changed his name to Dickie at the behest of his friend, the footballer and pundit Jimmy Hill, who suggested the change during a round of golf.

Davies spent his early professional life outside sport, completing his national service with the RAF before taking a job as head purser on the Queen Mary ocean line.

In 1961, Davies took on a job as

cean liner. In 1961, Davies took on a job as

an announcer for Southern Television, paving the way for his appointment as an understudy to Andrews when ITV launched its rival to Grandstand, originally known as Wide World of Sport, in

When Andrews departed three years later, Davies ascended to the years later, baves ascented to the main anchorman position, and was charged with keeping a straight face as he introduced numerous obscure sports, inevitably the overspill from the big-budget dominance on the other

The situation was parodied in

TRIBUTE TO A SPORTS TV GREAT

1976 by Hill who, in a sketch which also alluded to Davies' emerging status as an unlikely sex symbol, described the day's menu as "sailing from Hayling, sledding from Reading and shooting from

from Reading and shooting from Tooting".

But largely thanks to the leadership of Davies, whose encroaching 'badger quiff' of grey hair only served to increase his popularity, World of Sport evolved into a Saturday afternoon staple until the demise of wrestling contributed to ITV's decision to pull the plue on the programme in pull the plug on the programme in 1985.

Speech

Davies went on to front a number of sports for ITV, including the 1988 Seoul Olympics and a number of early Mike Tyson fights, before leaving in 1989 to present snooker on the then Sky-owned Eurosport channel.

on the then Sky-owned Eurosport channel.

A stint as sports editor on the newly launched Classic FM was interrupted in 1995 by a stroke which temporarily left him without the power of speech, but Davies made a near-full recovery, returning intermittently to the screen for a number of specials, including ITV's 50-year World of Sport anniversary in 2005.

Davies also presented several shows and DVDs about the socalled 'golden age' of wrestling, and co-edited The Grapple Manual with wrestler Kendo Nagasaki in 2005.

Perhaps, despite his purported

Perhaps, despite his purported dislike, he recognised the debt he owed to the sport which did more than others to make his name.

Davies died on Sunday at the ge of 94.

age of 94. He is survived by his wife and two sons.





HUGE WIN: Milkins

Milkins stunned by £230k payday

SNOOKER

ROBERT Milkins says he was lost for words after pocketing a £230,000

payday. He beat former world champion Shaun Murphy 9-7 to win the Welsh Open and cop the huge prize in Llandudno.

The 46-year-old from Gloucester claimed the first prize of £80,000 and first prize of £80,000 and a £150,000 bonus for topping the BetVictor Series ranking list, which has run across eight events since last July.

"I can't even speak, it's unreal really," Milkins, who won his first ranking title in 27 years as a professional in the Gibraltar Open 11 months ago, said. "All through the day I

was struggling a bit, same

as Shaun.
"Obviously I had a lot of reason to struggle through the game, it's a lot of money to me that is.

"I tried to not think about it and to be fair I played all right in the evening session, but to start off with it was really hard work and if Shaun had been at 20 per cent of his game I'm sure he would have took a lead going into the final

"Obviously Gibraltar was brilliant, but beating somebody like Shaun in a best-of-17 in a final, even if he didn't play well, is

ir ne didn't piay weil, is just the icling on the cake." Murphy, who produced a 1.47 clearance in his fourth-round defeat of Daniel Wells earlier this week, opened up a 3-1 lead before Milkins hit back to the hourt back to take the next three frames in succession.

A break of 68 helped

Murphy level the scores at the end of the first session and the players shared the first two frames of the evening before Milkins won frame 11 on a respotted black.

Breaks of 60 and 64 took Milkins to within a frame of victory and, although Murphy kept the match alive with the only century of the contest, Milkins secured the title

with another 64.

"Obviously I'm
disappointed," Murphy

"I couldn't have tried any harder, I left it all out

"I could have played a bit better but I just didn't really have it today and all credit to Rob, he was by far the better player."

TIGER STILL FEELING LA

TIGER Woods admitted his return to top-level golf was physically harder than he let

physically harder than he let on after a final round of 73 in the Genesis Invitational. Woods suffered multiple fractures of his right leg and ankle in a car accident in LA two years ago and has resigned himself to playing only a handful of events a year for the rest of his career. The 15-time major winner

year for the rest of his career.
The 15-time major winner showed glimpses of his brilliance at Riviera during a third round of 67 but found it difficult to walk 18 holes for five days in succession in his first event without the use of a cart since last summer's Open Championship.

"It's progress, headed in

the right direction," Woods told reporters. "It certainly was a little bit more difficult than I probably let on.
"My team has been fantastic in getting my body recovered day to day and getting me ready to play each and every day. That's the hard part that I can't simulate at home.

"Even if I played four days at home, it's not the same as adrenaline, it's not the same as the system being ramped up like that, the intensity, just the foous that it takes to play at this level."

Woods would not be drawn on whether he will contest

another PGA Tour event before the Masters in April, adding: "I'm not going to play

any more than probably the majors and a couple more. "That's it, that's all my body will allow me to do. That's just going to be my future.

future.
"So my intent last year was to play in all four majors, I gotthree of the four. Hopefully this year I can get all four and maybe sprinkle in a few here and there.
"But that's it for the rest of my career. I know that and I understand that. That's just my reality."

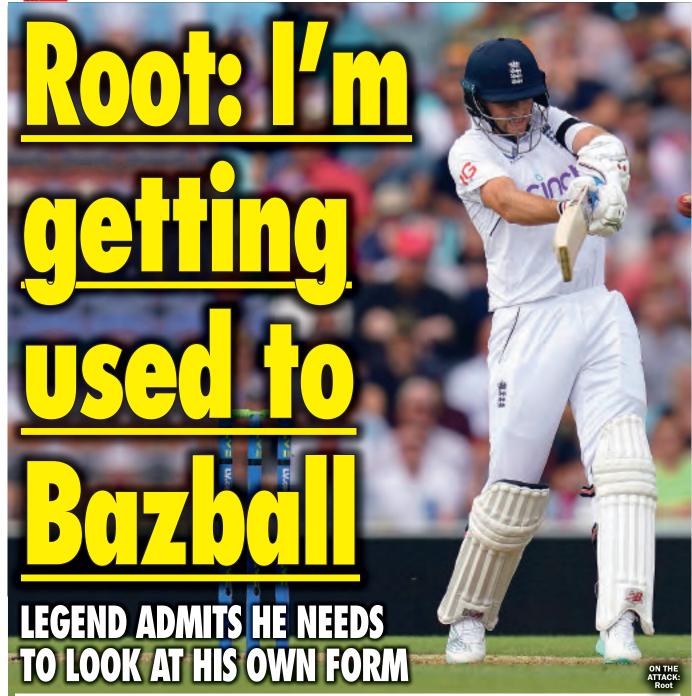
my reality."

Jon Rahm returned to the top of the world rankings with his third victory of the

year in the Genesis. He carded a closing 69 at Riviera to finish 17 under par, two shots ahead of American Max

to mish I I under par, two shots ahead of American Max Homa, with Patrick Cantlay another stroke back in third. The victory is Rahm's fifth in his last nine worldwide starts and his 10th PGA title, one more than his compatriot and idol Seve Ballesteros. "That was a tough week and a tough Sunday," Rahm said. "Im just glad I could come through at the end. "Beating Seve, I know he didn't play full time on the PGA Tour and I know five of those wins are majors, but still, to reach that milestone of double digit wins is pretty incredible."





JOE ROOT has scored more Test runs than any other batter currently playing, but he admits he has yet to nail down his identity in Ben Stokes'

revolutionary regime.
Root's 10,700 runs places him 12th on the game's all-time list, with 28 centuries and an average of 49.30 underlining his world-

of 49.30 underlining his world-class credentials.

Throughout his own five-year tenure, the side's fortunes frequently lived and died on his performances, but things have changed since he passed on the baton.

England's 267-run win over New Zealand in Mount Maunganui was their 10th win in 11 games since Stokes and head coach Brendon McCullum took charge last summer, with the whole team buying in to a relentlessly aggressive blueprint with bat and ball.

Root was outstanding in the early

with bat and ball.

Root was outstanding in the early stages of that run, tucking in with three hundreds and an unbeaten 86 in Stokes' first four matches, but has added just a couple of half-centuries in the past seven Tests.

While there is no concern whatsoever about his form within the camp — he averages a shade under 50 since the handover — Root

CRICKET

has begun to examine how he slots

has begun to examine how he slots into the new landscape.

"I think I've just got to find out what sits best for me and that's going to take some time," he said.

"If I'm being brutally honest there was the initial relief of coming out of the captaincy and now I'm just trying to find out what my role is within this team.

"It sounds silly but you want to be involved and be part of it. You want to heavily contribute and I feel like I've not been able to do that the last few Test matches.

want to nearly contribute and rieel like I've not been able to do that the last few Test matches.

"With the rhythms of the game, I've maybe got a bit caught up in it. I've not performed for a while but it's given me a kick up the backside, that this is how I need to play my cricket, how I can be consistently useful in this group."

That could be seen as a nod that Root regretted the manner of his first-innings dismissal at the Bay Oval, caught at slip attempting to deploy a reverse ramp over the cordon. But that was the first time he has come unstuck since he began experimenting with the stroke and he would rather refine it than eliminate it from his repertoire.

"You take calculated risks. I've got where I've got to by trusting my



gut. It just didn't quite work out," he said.

"It's not going to stop me playing it, maybe just be smarter about playing it. It's now part of my Test game and I'll continue to utilise it when it's the right time."

game and I'll continue to utilise it when it's the right time."
Despite the sharp difference in their styles, Stokes was a loyal vice-captain to Root and the bond of trust and admiration flows both ways.
"I didn't expect this, but I'm glad it's happened, it's been incredible. I'm absolutely buzzing for him and what he's doing," Root added.
"It's not just turned our Test team

and our fortunes around but I think people are now seriously considering is this the direction Test cricket should be going in?"."

And while Root wrestles with how best to lean into that direction, his fellow Yorkshireman Harry Brook is flourishing in the freedom.

After five Test appearances, three centuries and an average of 77.87, he is already being tipped for future

he is already being tipped for future greatness. Experienced heads like Stokes and Stuart Broad have already lavished him with praise on this trip and Root was more than happy to join the chorus for his county colleague.

Annoying

"He's really special," said Root.
"I've seen him go from a little boy
to a man and now he's bullying Test
attacks. It's extraordinary. I'm so
glad he's done as well as he has
because I've seen him for a long time
and know what he's capable of."
Indeed, the only down side Root
can think of is Brook's constant
reminders of an early meeting
between the pair.
"He was 14 when he came in as a
net bowler at Headingley and got

ne was 14 when he came in as a net bowler at Headingley and got me out," he recalled.

"He was bowling filthy seamers off the wrong foot but he continually talks about it, it's so annoying."

1958: Duncan Edwards, one of the best-known members of the famous 'Busby Babes Manchester United team, died in hospital at the age of 21 following the Munich air crash on February 6.

1988: Geet Sethi, playing in the Indian national snooker championship, became the first amateur to register an official maximum 147 break in a tournament.

1990: The Shell Trophy cricket match between Wellington and Canterbury at Canterbury at
Christchurch produced
one of the most bizarre
finishes in the game's
history. To force a result,
Wellington's Bert Vance
delivered 17 no-balls in
the penultimate over.
The umpire miscounted The umpire miscounted the number of legitimate balls, producing a 22-ball over in which 77 runs were scored, 69 of them by wicketkeeper Lee Germon. A further 17 were scored off the last over, and Canterbury faced the last ball needing one run for victory. The batter played a defensive stroke, unaware only one was needed, and the match was drawn. Wellington still went on to win the trophy.

2004: Wales, Leeds and Juventus great John Charles died, aged 72.

2006: Thierry Henry scored a stunning solo goal to clinch a 1-0 Champions League win for Arsenal away to Real Madrid – the first victory for an English club at the Bernabeu.

2007: The All England 2007: The All England
Club announced men
and women were to
receive equal prize
money at Wimbledon for
the first time.

2012: Manchester City striker Carlos Tevez apologised "sincerely

unreservedly" for his conduct after a long dispute with the club, and accepted

a club fine of six weeks' wages for gross misconduct. The move allowed him to

revive his City career.

2014: Wayne Rooney signed a new five-and-a-half-year contract at Manchester United.

2016: Leeds Rhinos lost the World Club Challenge 38-4 to North Queensland

Cowboys as Australian clubs completed a whitewash of their Super League

counterparts for the second successive year in the World Club Series.

2017: Sutton reserve goalkeeper Wayne Shaw resigned from the club after eating a pie in the dugout during the FA Cup defeat to Arsenal. A bookmaker had offered odds on him to be seen

2021: Novak Diokovic won the Australian Open, beating Daniil Medvedev 7-5 6-2 6-2 in the men's singles final.

ST HELENS' dramatic World Club Challenge win over Penrith Panthers on Saturday will spark attempts to restore the fixture to a permanent, annual place on the rugby league calendar.

Saints' 13-12 triumph, capped by Lewis Dodd's golden-point drop-goal, marked the first win by an English club in Australia since 1994, as the competition returned after a two-year absence

drop-goal, marked the first win since 1994, as the competition r due to the Covid pandemic.

Despite being staged every year from 2000 to 2020, RFL chairman Simon Johnson hopes the success of this year's event will end the era of "ad hoc" arrangements between the respective Super League and NRL champions.

"What Saturday has shown is this is a competitive fixture, and although it is negotiated on an ad hoc basis, I'd hope this will persuade the NRL to make it a vital part of their pre-season," Johnson said.

"I think we ought to make this something that is a firm part of the cross-hemisphere calendar, and I think with the work we are currently doing with IMG, there is a real opportunity to do that.

"Everybody expected Penrith to walk it, but the achievement by Saints was wonderful. It was a real shot in the arm for the game, and a statement that we have some great athletes, and it has made the world sit up and take notice."

Saints stumped up the hefty bill



RUGBY LEAGUE

for their trip to Australia, the first by an English team since 2018, and Channel 4 reported impressive early-morning viewing figures that averaged around 226,000.

Their triumph even earned praise from rival quarters, with Wigan head coach Matt Peet—whose club famously sunk the Brisbane Broncos 29 years ago—insisting: "I had a feeling they would do it, and I'm pleased to see them get the win."

Hull KR's Aussie coach Willie Peters, who played in the NRL with South Sydney and St George, added: "I think it's outstanding for the game over here.

"We've got a really good product here and it's a top-class game. We just need to keep working on the grassroots and the reserve-grade tier, so that we can keep producing the players that were on show."

Positive

The success by Paul Wellens' team, who will jet straight into Sunday's Super League opener at Castleford, could hardly have been more timely of the start of the Castleford, could hardly have been more timely at the start of a season in which IMG will unveil the next phase of its grading criteria.

And Johnson hopes the positive start to the campaign — with big crowds at the likes of Warrington, Hull and Hull KR — will help.

"We're at a very exciting time in the development of Super League," added Johnson.

"On purely financial terms the comparison with the NRL doesn't work in our favour, but I think we're going in the right direction.

"For players looking to make a decision about their future, I think they can see that this is a really

they can see that this is a really good quality, exciting competition, and I think this is where the game is really on the up at the moment." is really on the up at the moment.



IP S

LORIS Karius is set to play for Newcastle in the Carabao Cup final against Manchester United on Sunday.

The Magpies' fourth-choice goalkeeper has been thrust into the spotlight with regular number one Nick Pope suspended following his red card against Liverpool.

Martin Dubravka, who replaced Pope at the weekend, cannot play as he is cup-tied and third-choice Karl Darlow is on loan at Hull.

and third-choice Karl Darlow is on loan at Hull.

It means Karius, who joined Newcastle in September, is in line for a first appearance for an English club since his error-strewn display for Liverpool in the 2018 Champions League final.

Here Midweek Sport looks at a challenging four years for a chanens. the stopper.

NIGHTMARE IN KYIV

Karius is best remembered for two horrendous mistakes in horrendous mistakes in the European showpiece against Real Madrid almost five years ago. The German gifted Real their opening goal in the 51st minute when he threw the ball out in frontof Karim Benzema, who stuck his leg out and diverted it into the net.

Karius was also at fault for Real's third goal when he let Gareth Bale's

long-range effort slip through his fingers. It later emerged that the goalkeeper was

suffering with concussion, possibly following a collision with Sergio Ramos.

After Liverpool broke the world record transfer fee for a goalkeeper by signing Alisson Becker for £66.8million, Karius was loaned out to Turkish side Besiktas.

He spent two seasons there, making 65

there, making

appearances, but could not cut out the blunders. Most notably, his misjudged header

gifted Slovan Bratislava striker Andraz Sporar the opening goal in a 4-2 Europa League defeat. Karius terminated his contract with Besiktas in

2020 after a pay dispute with the club.

UNHAPPY UNION

Still on Liverpool's books but with no prospect of any game time, Karius returned to Germany on loan with Union Raelis Union Berlin.

Union Berlin.

But he shipped three goals on his debut as his new side were dumped out of the German Cup by second division Paderborn.

Karius went on to make just four more appearances,

with his last competitive match coming in a 1-1 draw with Hoffenheim on February 28, 2021.

EVERGREEN: James Roby

28, 2021.

FINAL CHANCE?

Karius' Liverpool contract expired last summer and he was picked up by Newcastle as a free agent in September. Now 29, Karius has yet to make an appearance for the Magpies but looks set to make his debut in the biggest game in the club's recent history.

"That was the reason for taking a player of his profile," said manager Eddie Howe.

"He has experience of the big games, so I've got no doubt or issue over his ability to step in."

- 1. Who was the most expensive player at the inaugural Women's Premier League
- 2. Which driver finished third in last season's Formula One driver standings?
- 3. Which US city is home to the Brewers and Bucks?
- 4. Who became the most expensive women's footballer in the summer of 2022?
- 5. When did Newcastle last win a major domestic trophy?
- 6. When did Ireland last win the Six Nations Grand Slam?
- 7. James Anderson and Stuart Broad overtook Shane Warne and Glenn McGrath for having the most Test wickets as teammates, but how many did the Australian pair take?
- 8. How many matches has Rafael Nadal lost at Roland Garros throughout his entire tennis career?
- 9. When was the first ever Formula One World Championship race and where was it held?
- 10. How many clubs have played just one season in the Premier League and who are they?
- 11. In which year did Neil Robertson win his only World Snooker Championship?
- 12. Daniel Jones is a quarterback for which NFL team?
- 13 Charlotte Edwards franchise at the inaugural Women's Premier League?
- 14. How many times did American golfer Tom Watson win the **Open Championship?**
- 15. Where do Northampton Town play their home matches?
- 16. What is the nationality of new WBA featherweight champion Mauricio Lara?
- 17. Valtteri Bottas races for which Formula One team?
- 18. Who were the beaten finalists in last year's Challenge Cup?
- 19. Who won the women's singles title at Wimbledon in 2017?
- 20. When did England last claim the Grand Slam in the Six Nations?

Minwa, Lt. Sanko Mandinana, Z. Seiglo Porex; Meria Minwalkeer, Meira Minwalkeer, Meira J. 1956, Meira J. 1956,



Lindelof focused on Barca and Toon

VICTOR Lindelof says Manchester United's players cannot think about a takeover as they must focus all their energy on beating Barcelona and lifting the Carabao Cup.

Erik ten Hag's side are still fighting on four fronts, with Sunday's 3-0 win against Leicester keeping hopes of a Premier League title push alive.
United host Barcelona

in the return leg of their Europa League play-off with the tie balanced at 2-2, before heading to Wembley to take on Newcastle in Sunday's Carabao Cup final.

"I haven't given that a "I naven't given that a thought, you know, especially now with the schedule," the centre-back said of takeover talk.
"We can't think about that. We just have to think

about the games and preparing the best that we can do. "Yeah, I haven't thought

about that. Whatever happens happens, but we're just focusing on our

performances."
Qatari banker Sheikh
Jassim Bin Hamad Al Thani and Sir Jim Ratcliffe's INEOS publicly confirmed that they submitted bids to buy the club from the Glazer family before Friday's soft deadline. United fans, as always,

chanted against the current owners on Sunday, when Ten Hag's side rode their luck against Leicester before Jadon Sancho added to Marcus Rashford's brace.

Rashford is excelling after a season of adversity and has scored 24 goals in all competitions, breaking his single-season record for the club before

for the club before February was out.

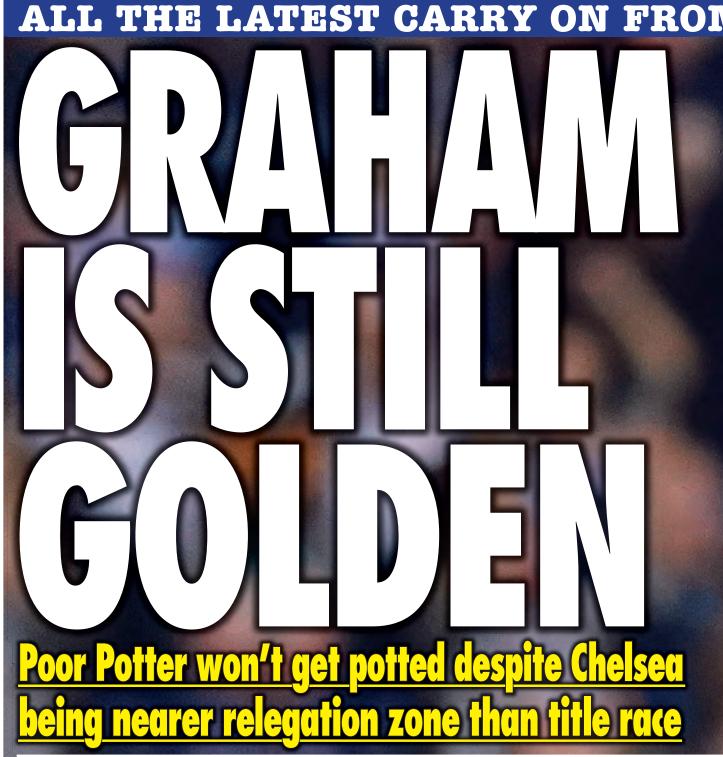
"Of course I've seen what type of player he is over the years, but I think right now he does everything right," Lindelof said of Rashford.

"He's training great, doing his recovery right and, yeah, just shows what type of player he is. His form has been

form has been

form has been unbelievable lately."
Asked if he has noticed him doing anything different, he added: "He's coming in, he's doing his recovery and it's very, very important when we have the schedule that we have Games are coming thick

and fast every three days.
"I don't know what he's doing at home, but I think he's doing the right things because otherwise he can't perform every game the way he's doing it."



CHELSEA boss Graham Potter has the full support of the

club's hierarchy despite his side's poor run of results.

The Blues have won just twice in 14 games in all competitions and were beaten by the Premier League's bottom side Southampton at Stamford Bridge on the weekend

on the weekend.

Potter's expensively-assembled side left the pitch amidst anger and a chorus of boos at full-time, with some voices near the dugout calling for the former Brighton manager to leave

leave.

However, despite a shocking run of results, all the talk is that Potter maintains the backing of co-controlling owners Todd Boehly and Behdad Eghbali ahead of Sunday's London derby at Tottenham.

It is understood that the focus remains on the long term, with Boehly having sanctioned a huge transfer outlay in the January

By PAUL THOMAS

window. And they don't want to get rid of their manager no matter how

rid of their manager no matter how bad things get.
Saturday's starting XI featured five of the recent recruits and although Noni Madueke, Enzo Fernandez and Joao Felix showed moments of promise in midfield, they failed to produce the kind of link-up play that had been on display in recent weeks.

Innk-up play that had been on display in recent weeks.

Mykhailo Mudryk offered little when he came off the bench in the second half, while striker David Fofana did not look like the answer to the team's goalscoring worries on his full debut.

Chelse have geored just one in

his full debut.
Chelsea have scored just once in their last five matches, Felix giving them the lead in a 1-1 draw at West Ham on February 11. And things have been shocking in front of goal for a while now.

For a while now.

Potter is trying to put on a brce face and is calling for the club's new

signings to be given time to settle in England.

"We've invested in some young players, if you look at Enzo and Mudryk, at Madueke," he said.
"They haven't played that many games. They're learning to play in the Premier League. We're managing quite an injury list, we've got players returning from injury.

Pressure

"All these things are true. But unfortunately when you lose they're not what people want to hear.
"I know my quality and I know what I've done in my career. But I also understand that when results

also understand that when results don't go your way, you're open to criticism and that's fair."

Whatever the word coming out of Stamford Bridge is, Potter has a lot of problems to solve – and quickly. While the club appear set to stand by the under-fire former Brighton boss, a record of nine wins in 25 games in charge is cause for concern and his 36 per cent win rate with the

club is the lowest since previous owner Roman Abramovich took charge in 2003.

Here, Midweek Sport looks at his

record in detail.

STAMFORD BRIDGE STRUGGLES

Potter was unbeaten in his first nine games in charge, winning six, including a run of five in a row against Crystal Palace, AC Milan (twice), Wolves and Aston Villa.

Defeat to his former club Brighton, though, was the first of four in a five-game sequence broken only by a 2-1 Champions League win over Dinamo Zagreb.

Champions League win over Dinamo Zagreb.

One of those came against Manchester City, who have now knocked Potter's side out of both the Carabao Cup and FA Cup this season. A 4-0 rout in the latter immediately followed City's 1-0 win in the Premier League meeting between the sides as the club's current run of one win – against Palace – in 10 games gathered pace.

That sequence also includes a loss



and a draw against local rivals Fulham, further draws with Nottingham Forest, Liverpool and West Ham and defeats to Borussia

West Ham and defeats to Borussia Dortmund and Southampton.

They have not won away from Stamford Bridge since October, with three draws and six losses – that includes conceding four goals in a game to both City and Brighton while only scoring that many in total across the pine games

across the nine games.

In all, Potter has won nine, drawn seven and lost nine of 25 games in charge, with his team scoring 25 goals and conceding 24.

goals and conceding 24.

His win percentage is lower than even Andre Villas-Boas' 47.5 per cent, the lowest of any of the 13 managers employed by Abramovich

before his forced departure.

CLUB COMPARISON

Potterhaslostagreaterpercentage of games in charge of Chelsea than he did with Brighton. The Seagulls are three places and four points ahead of Chelsea in

seventh and, while their fast start under Potter had them above the Blues when he was appointed as Thomas Tuchel's successor, that is surely not what Boehly and his hierarchy were anticipating.

Potter's Brighton lost 48 out of 140 games in all compatitions.

Potter's Brighton lost 48 out of 140 games in all competitions, or 34.3 per cent. His Chelsea win percentage is higher – 36 per cent to 32.1 – with his Brighton side proving tougher to beat as they drew their other 47 games (33.6 per cent).

His one season with Swansea came in the Championship where, despite finishing only 10th and missing out on the play-offs, they had a 41.2 per cent win rate – the best of Potter's career in the English league. league.

He previously made his name with Swedish side Ostersund, winning over half his games in charge (127 of 249, 51 per cent) as he took them from the fourth tier to the top flight, a cup win and the Europa League last 32.

BACKING:

■F00TBALL: Champions League, RB Leipzig v Manchester City — BT Sport 1 1900; Inter Milan v FC Porto - BT Sport 2 1915: Arnold Clark Cup. Korea Republic v Italy – ITV4 1625; England v Belgium – ITV4 1900; EFL Trophy, Accrington v Bolton — Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1930. ■CYCLING: Men's IIAF Tour -

Eurosport 2 1050.

SNOOKER: Players Championship

– ITV3 1245 and 1845.

■FOOTBALL: Europa League, Manchester United v Barcelona — BT Sport 2 1900; Roma v RB Salzburg — BT Sport 4 1945: Nantes v Juventus - BT Sport 3 1730.

■CRICKET: Second Test, New Zealand v England — BT Sport 3 2115; Women's ICC World T20, first semi-final TBC — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Cricket 1230. ■GOLF: DP World Tour, The Hero Indian Open — Sky Sports Golf 0730, Sky Sports Main Event 1100; PGA Tour, The Honda Classic — Sky Snorts Golf 1330 MOTOR RACING: Formula One,

testing — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports F1 0650, Sky Sports F1 RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League,

Salford v Hull KR – Sky Sports Arena 1930. CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour -

Eurosport 2 1050.

DARTS: Premier League, Dublin Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Action 1900.

SNOOKER: Players Championship - ITV& 12&5 and 18&5 ■BASKETBALL: NBA, Philadelphia 76ers v Memphis Grizzlies — Sky Sports Arena and Sky Sports Main Event 0030 (Fri): Los Angeles Lakers v Golden State Warriors - Sky Sports Arena and Sky Sports Main Event 0300 (Fri).

FRIDAY

■F00TBALL: Premier League, Fulham v Wolves – Sky Sports Main Fulnam v Wolves — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Premier League 1900; Ligue 1, Lille v Brest — BT Sport 3 2000; Bundesliga, Mainz v Borussia Monchengladbach — Sky Sports Football 1920. CRICKET: Second Test. New

Zealand v England – BT Sport 1 2130; Women's ICC World T20, Second semi-final — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Cricket

■RUGBY UNION: Super Rugby, Crusaders v Chiefs — Sky Sports Action 0600: Waratahs v Brumbies Sky Sports Action 0830; Premiership. Bath v Bristol – BT Snort 2 1900

RUGBY LEAGUE: Leeds v Hull FC Sky Sports Arena 2000. ■GOLF: DP World Tour, The Hero Indian Open — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Golf 0730; PGA Tour, The Honda Classic — Sky Sports Golf 1330. MOTOR RACING: Formula One

testing – Sky Sports F1 0650 and 1150

■CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour — Eurosport 2 1050. SNOOKER: Players Championship — ITV4 1245 and 1845. ■NETBALL: Loughborough Lightning v Saracens Mavericks – Sky Sports Mix 1900. BASKETBALL: NBA, Milwaukee Bucks v Miami Heat - BBC One 0025

■FOOTBALL: Premier League, Newcastle v Brighton – BT Sport 1 1130- Rournemouth v Manchester City — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Premier League 1700; Crystal Palace v Liverpool – Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports

Premier League 1930 Championship, Coventry v Sunderland — Sky Sports Football and Sky Snorts Main Event 1200-National League, Notts County v Dagenham & Redbridge — BT Sport 1 1700; Serie A, Empoli v Napoli – BT Sport 2 1715; Lecce v Sassuolo - BT Sport 2 1930: Bundesliga. Schalke v Stuttgart — Sky Sports
Football 1720; Ligue 1, Montpellier v
Lens — BT Sport 3 2000.

CRICKET: Second Test, New Zealand v England – BT Sport 1 2130

■RUGBY UNION: Six Nations, Italy v Ireland - ITV 1330: Wales v England – BBC One and S4C 1600, BBC One Scotland 1715; Super Rugby, Moana Pasifika v Fijian Drua – Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Action 0330; Highlanders v Blues — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Action 0600; Reds v Hurricanes -Sky Sports Action 0830; Force v Rebels — Sky Sports Action 1055. ■GOLF: DP World Tour, The Hero Indian Open — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Golf 0800; PGA Tour, The Honda Classic — Sky Snorts Golf 1330

■MOTOR RACING: Formula One, testing — Sky Sports F1 0650 and 1150.

MOTOR CYCLING: World Superbikes, Phillip Island – Eurosport 2 0115 and 0315. ■HORSE RACING: Kempton — ITV4 1310.

CYCLING: Men's LIAF Tour -Eurosport 2 1050; Omloop Het Nieuwsblad - Eurosport 2 1230 and

SNOOKER: Players Championship — ITV3 1845. ■BASKETBALL: NBA, Detroit Pistons

v Toronto Raptors — Sky Sports Arena and Sky Sports Mix 1700; Philadelphia 76ers v Boston Celtics – Sky Sports Arena and Sky Sports Main Event 0130 (Sun).

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL: Carabao Cup final, Manchester United v Newcastle -Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Sky Sports Football and Sky Sports Main Event 1530: Premier League, Tottenham v Chelsea — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Premier League 1230: Viaplay Cup final, Rangers v Celtic — Viaplay Sports 1400: Serie A, Bologna v Inter Milan — BT Sport 2 1130: Salernitana v Monza — BT Sport 2 1400: Udinese v Spezia — BT Sport 2 1700: AC Milan v Atlanta — BT Sport 2 1945: Liguel 1. Lorient v Auxerre — BT Sport 3 1, Lorient v Auxerre — BT Sport 3 1200; Nantes v Rennes – BT Sport 3 1400; Monaco v Nice – BT Sport 1 1600; Marseille v Paris St Germain -BT Sport 3 1930.

CRICKET: Women's ICC World T20

■ CRUCKET: Women's ICL World 120 final TBC — Sky Sports Cricket 1230; Second Test, New Zealand v England — BT Sport 1 2130.
■ RUGBY UNION: Six Nations, France v Scotland — ITV 1415; Premiership,

Exeter v Sale — BT Sport 1 1200. ■GOLF: DP World Tour, The Hero Indian Open — Sky Sports Main Event and Sky Sports Golf 0700; PGA Tour, The Honda Classic — Sky Sports Golf 1330, Sky Sports Main Event 1930

■RUGBY LEAGUE: Super League, Castleford v St Helens — Channel 4 1230

MOTOR CYCLING: World Superbikes, Phillip Island — Eurosport 2 0145 and 0315. CYCLING: Men's UAE Tour – Eurosport 2 1050; Kuurne-Brussels-Eurosport 2 1330.

■SNOOKER: Players Championship

— ITV4 1245 and 1845.
■BASKETBALL: NBA, Milwaukee

Bucks v Phoenix Suns — Sky Sports Arena 1800; Dallas Mavericks v Los Angeles Lakers - Sky Sports Mix and Sky Sports Arena 2030.

ON SALE WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY £1.60 February 22, 2023





By JOHN ANTHONY

LEEDS are pinning their hopes on Javi Gracia to keep the Elland Road giants in the Premier League.

The 52-year-old Spaniard, who was Watford's head coach between 2018 and 2019, has been named as

Jesse Marsch's successor.

Marsch was sacked earlier this month after a defeat at Nottingham Forest, with under-21s manager Michael Skubala placed in interim charge for the last three general.

Skubala placed in interim charge for the last three games.

After losing to relegation rivals Everton at the weekend – without a shot on target – it seems the Leeds board have decided to act swiftly.

Gracia, who arrived in West Yorkshire



on Tuesday morning, has signed a "flexible contract" thought to be until the end of the season and will be tasked with keeping the second-bottom club in the Premier League.

He has been out of work since leaving Al Sadd in June, but did well in his previous spell in England, taking the Hornets to the 2019 FA Cup final and securing an 11th-placed finish in the league before being sacked just four games into the following season.

His expected appointment will end a lengthy searchfor Marsch's replacement, with the club having been linked with Andoni Iraola, Arne Slot and Alfred Schreuder who all reportedly turned the job down.

job down.

Work permit permitting, Gracia will be in charge in time for Saturday's crunch game with Southampton at Elland Road.

